



**International Convention on
the Elimination of All Forms
of Racial Discrimination**

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Ninety-fifth session

Summary record of the 2621st meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Thursday, 26 April 2018, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Amir

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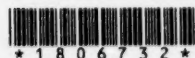
Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention (*continued*)

Twenty-second and twenty-third periodic reports of Peru (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention (continued)

Twenty-second and twenty-third periodic reports of Peru (continued)
(CERD/C/PER/22-23, CERD/C/PER/Q/22-23)

1. **Mr. Soria Fuerte** (Peru), responding to questions asked during the previous meeting, said that the Congressional Committee on Constitutional Matters had approved a bill that recognized Afro-Peruvian, Andean and Amazonian peoples as an integral part of the nation. The inclusion of specific references to those groups in the Constitution had been supported by the Ministry of Culture. It was important to note that the bill had been put forward only recently and had not yet been publicly debated. It would be up to Congress to make a final decision on the inclusion of the new provision in the Constitution.
2. Article 323 of the Criminal Code had been amended to include a reference to "any other reason" for discrimination, which meant that it now encompassed all types of discrimination. Article 323 conformed to international standards, including recommendations from the Committee and general comment No. 18 (1989) of the Human Rights Committee. Four further bills proposing amendments to article 323 had been submitted to Congress and were being examined by its Committee on Justice and Human Rights.
3. Under the National Development Plan for the Afro-Peruvian Population, the State used results-based budgeting methodology to identify the resources needed in different sectors. The National Human Rights Plan was the result of a broad consultation process involving government officials and representatives of almost 200 civil society organizations. It included a large number of strategic objectives, strategic actions, indicators and goals, which were all in keeping with international human rights standards. In order to monitor the implementation of the Plan, the Government was increasing its operational capacity by developing a monitoring and follow-up system. However, the implementation of the Plan had begun only recently, and it would take time to see any measurable impact.
4. As part of the National Human Rights Plan, the Government had committed to implementing a mechanism for protecting human rights defenders, which it planned to do during 2018. The mechanism would be implemented in close collaboration with human rights defenders and civil society and would have the necessary human resources and budget. It would come under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The delegation would welcome the Committee's recommendations on how to ensure the autonomy and independence of the mechanism. He wished to point out that, in situations of conflict the Government was responsible for protecting the human rights of the police as well as those of the civilian population. In such situations, it was incumbent upon the State to restore order. It was important for the Committee to know that road blocks set up during protests had led to the deaths of children and older persons who had been prevented from accessing health care. He would ask the Committee to take such considerations into account when formulating its concluding observations.
5. With regard to the national strategy for the eradication of ethnic and racial discrimination, in 2017 the Government had launched the National Operation to Combat Racism with the objective of raising awareness of racism and racial discrimination and how they affected all members of society. A budget of more than \$700,000 had been allocated for that purpose. The National Commission against Discrimination was being restructured in order to make it more effective. It had an intersectoral role and comprised officials from several different ministries. The Commission had recently approved a timetable for the implementation of national policies against discrimination. The results of the national survey on perceptions and attitudes regarding racial discrimination would be used as a basis for a national policy against racism and racial discrimination. The policy was currently being formulated through a participatory consultative process.
6. As for follow-up on prior consultation agreements, a multisectoral standing committee had been established under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture. At its most recent meeting, the committee had presented a matrix showing 400 agreements, which

could be used to monitor and verify their fulfilment. Compliance with prior consultation agreements was also monitored by a unit within the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers, which had found a compliance rate of 75 per cent.

7. Regarding the political participation of the Afro-Peruvian and indigenous populations, the National Elections Board had submitted a draft electoral code to Congress that would guarantee the participation and election of an indigenous candidate in the regions where quotas were applied. The quota for persons of indigenous origin had been implemented in 2002 at the regional and provincial levels. Since then, the number of indigenous representatives had increased from 14 in 2010 to 46 in 2014 at the regional level and from 34 to 115 at the provincial level. There was currently no quota system in place for congressional elections. There were indigenous and Afro-Peruvian representatives in Congress, but he was unable to provide exact numbers.

8. Applications for five new indigenous reserves were currently being reviewed. Those new reserves would cover a total of 4 million hectares. A multisectoral committee made up of government agencies, organizations of indigenous populations and representatives of civil society carried out technical studies for such applications. The studies included two phases: identification of indigenous populations in a situation of voluntary isolation or initial contact and delimitation of the territory to be classified as an indigenous reserve. Each phase culminated with the promulgation of a supreme decree of the Ministry of Culture.

9. **Mr. De la Puente Ribeyro** (Peru) said that the concept of interculturality referred to the recognition of cultural differences. It was one of the central pillars of a democratic society based on equal rights and opportunities. Bilingual intercultural education was designed to educate indigenous persons of all ages on how to exercise their citizenship and participate in building a democratic and pluralistic society. Teaching was provided in both Spanish and the language of the indigenous group. The Government had approved a sectoral policy on intercultural education and bilingual intercultural education and such education was available in 18 regions. The National Human Rights Plan provided for interculturality training for teachers. Over 11,000 primary schools had bilingual intercultural education programmes. Educational materials had been produced for 19 indigenous languages, which were included in the national curriculum along with Spanish as a second language. Over 40 higher education institutions offered courses in bilingual intercultural education and a number of scholarships had been awarded to young people from indigenous backgrounds and to teacher trainers specializing in such education.

10. An intercultural health plan was in place for several areas in the Amazon basin, where, in 2017, health care had been provided by travelling teams in almost 250 indigenous communities. A comprehensive health-care model had been approved for the same region with the aim of providing culturally relevant health care. Local facilitators and community health workers had been trained and community health plans had been drawn up with the involvement of community leaders and organizations of indigenous peoples. Further training of health-care workers was planned for 2018. As part of the National Development Plan for the Afro-Peruvian Population, health campaigns had been carried out in several regions. A regional health plan for indigenous peoples was being developed. The Government had also worked to assist indigenous populations affected by oil extraction activities, particularly in the Amazon region. Guidelines for the identification of impacted areas had been drawn up with the participation of representatives of affected indigenous populations and site visits had been conducted in 2017 and 2018. Since 2011, the Government had responded to 148 environmental emergencies caused by oil spills or leaks.

11. **Mr. Soria Fuerte** (Peru), mentioning a number of recent prior consultation processes, said that such consultations were carried out for all proposed investment projects, including mining projects, in line with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and other international standards. Any Afrodescendent population that was considered an indigenous or tribal group was guaranteed the right to prior consultation, as it was covered by ILO Convention No. 169, the provisions of which had been incorporated into domestic law, as had other provisions of international human rights law, reflecting the State's respect for human rights and its commitment to the fulfilment of its obligations under international law.

12. With respect to the use of force, any official who engaged in the arbitrary use of force could be held criminally responsible. Police officers were only exempt from criminal responsibility in exceptional cases that met the requirements of domestic law and international human rights standards applicable to policing. In order to strengthen national policies on human rights and the use of force, the Government was reviewing directives and protocols on police conduct and the content of police training programmes. A specific training centre focused on the maintenance of public order provided instruction in appropriate use of force and democratic management of social conflicts. The Public Prosecution Service was also developing training for judiciary personnel on the matter.

13. The Peruvian National Police had signed agreements with public and private entities, including 22 mining companies, to provide security services. Such arrangements were permitted only in certain specific situations, including when there was a need to protect strategic assets linked to the exploitation or transport of natural resources or to provide security at large-scale events that might pose a threat to public safety or order. By entering into such agreements, the State sought to protect investments that both contributed to economic stability and generated funds to be used to promote and protect human rights in the country.

14. **Ms. Masana García** (Peru) said that the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups had created two working groups to promote and ensure the fulfilment of the rights of indigenous and Afro-Peruvian women. Those groups, which included representatives of civil society organizations, were both in the process of finalizing their strategic plans for the period 2018–2021. The working group on indigenous women was also promoting the formation of a cross-sector working group for the promotion of the rights of indigenous women. The National Programme to Combat Domestic and Sexual Violence had promoted participatory initiatives to combat violence against women in rural areas.

15. **Mr. De la Puente Ribeyro** (Peru) said that, according to the Database of Indigenous and Aboriginal Peoples, approximately 16 per cent of Peruvian territory was occupied by communities identified as belonging to indigenous peoples. The situation at the Kugapakori-Nahua-Nanti Reserve was illustrative of the action taken by the State party in relation to indigenous peoples living in a situation of voluntary isolation or initial contact. Surveillance posts had been set up to identify threats and illegal activities on and around the reserve, support for health care and education was provided by the Ministry of Culture, and an indigenous specialist carried out continuous monitoring of the health situation of the communities living on the reserve.

16. The use of mercury was a key issue affecting the health and quality of life of indigenous communities in Peru. Studies published by the Ministry of Health showed that 96 per cent of the country's small-scale and artisanal gold production was carried out in regions in the south and east of Peru, which were home to many indigenous communities. Much of that gold was processed using mercury, a metal whose use was damaging to both human health and the environment. The volume of mercury released into the environment depended more on the techniques employed in its use than on the legality or illegality of the mining activities. The Government had taken measures to regulate mining activities in the country and exercise greater control over processing and production methods, including the development of a national action plan on the use of mercury in small-scale and artisanal mining. Peru had ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

17. **Mr. Briceño Salazar** (Peru) said that the number of applications for asylum had risen from 4,366 in 2016 to 34,167 in 2017. The vast majority of those applications had been made by Venezuelan citizens. According to the National Migration Authority, close to 200,000 Venezuelan nationals had entered Peru; about 25 per cent were migrants in transit. Two alternatives were available to Venezuelan nationals arriving in Peru: either they could apply for refugee status, which was available to those who had a well-founded fear of persecution, or they could apply for a temporary residence permit, which was available to those who migrated for other reasons. All applicants for refugee status received a work permit, as did those who were granted temporary residence. Venezuelan citizens could open a bank account with their asylum applicant's identity document or with the permit they received from the National Migration Authority. The Special Commission for Refugees carried out awareness-raising among employers about recruiting asylum applicants.

18. All child refugees and other child migrants had access to compulsory basic education. The Ministry of Education had issued a communiqué to all its departments on the importance of ensuring that the children of refugees had access to education at public schools. Under Peruvian law, migrants present in Peru were guaranteed access to health services, including emergency care. Those with refugee status or an identity card from the National Migration Authority had access to the Comprehensive Health Insurance System.

19. The second National Plan on Forced Labour had been evaluated and an evaluation report was being prepared. The third National Plan had been submitted for approval by a national commission made up of employers, workers and government officials, which was expected to confirm its approval shortly. In order to collect more data on the subject, a survey would be conducted to identify the populations most at risk. The Criminal Code had been amended to bring the definition of the offence of forced labour into line with the ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), which Peru had ratified. The Ministry of Labour and Job Creation and the Public Prosecution Service were working together to prevent forced labour and prosecute offenders. The relevant documentation on the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) had been submitted to the President and Prime Minister for signature on 23 April 2018. It would subsequently be submitted to Congress for ratification of the Convention.

20. **Mr. Arias Lazarte** (Peru) said that a range of measures and initiatives had been carried out to promote access to justice for members of the indigenous and Afro-Peruvian communities, including the establishment of special commissions focused on areas such as indigenous justice and gender justice, the formulation of a national plan on access to justice for persons in situations of vulnerability and the provision of Quechua language training to judges and other judicial personnel. In 2016, 1,166 individuals had received such training. Information had been made available online on integrated justice centres located throughout the country, where individuals could receive legal assistance and access the services of the police and the Public Defence Service. There had been 31 legal proceedings relating to allegations of racial discrimination between 2015 and 2017, 5 of which had resulted in convictions.

21. An online register of interpreters and translators of different indigenous and aboriginal languages was available to the public. There were currently 81 such interpreters and translators. Candidates taking entrance exams for positions in the judiciary received extra points if they spoke an indigenous language. In a few cases, judgments had been issued in Quechua or Aymara.

22. Ms. Azucena Asunción Algendones had been involved in two sets of legal proceedings. In the first case, she had been found guilty of embezzlement, but in application of the *ultima ratio* principle had not been sentenced for a criminal offence; rather, she had been ordered to pay civil damages in the amount of 500 Peruvian soles. The second case related to an offence of discriminatory treatment on the basis of race. The defendants had been found guilty by the court of first instance, but acquitted on appeal; the case had subsequently been referred to the Supreme Court and remained pending.

23. **Mr. Soria Fuerte** (Peru) said that, under the Radio and Television Act (No. 28278), media outlets were obliged to follow a code of ethics. The Sociedad Nacional de Radio y Televisión — an entity consisting of the main television and radio stations — had a mechanism for receiving complaints from the public and a sanctions procedure. The Ministry of Culture, which had published a guide on non-discriminatory communication for media professionals, had publicly voiced its concerns about the television programme *La Paisana Jacinta*. In 2017, the Ministry had conducted education campaigns on racial stereotypes and prejudices and their impact on the fundamental rights of indigenous women. The Government's scope for action was limited, however. While it strove to eliminate stereotypes detrimental to certain population groups, it also had to respect freedom of expression, a right enshrined in treaties such as the American Convention on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

24. **Mr. Murillo Martínez** (Country Rapporteur) said that the Committee had received detailed information on the distribution of productive land in Peru, 80 per cent of which was owned by 2 per cent of the population. Indigenous peoples enjoyed a harmonious

relationship with nature and were allies in the fight against climate change, and there was ample historical evidence that the ancestral lands of indigenous peoples were better protected when under the control of indigenous communities. He would like to know how the State party intended to guarantee their use and enjoyment of their ancestral lands, particularly those that fell within protected areas.

25. The State party's efforts with regard to prior consultation were commendable. He wished to know, however, what steps would be taken to address complaints that consultations were not held sufficiently in advance. It was particularly important to incentivize women's participation in such consultations and to recognize that they were an opportunity for intercultural dialogue and for maintaining peace and social harmony. In that regard, the State party should keep in mind the tragic events of 2009, in which a confrontation between the State and indigenous peoples — who considered that they had not been adequately consulted about the implementation of a free trade agreement between Peru and the United States — had led to several deaths in Bagua. Given the importance of dialogue for dispelling concerns and preventing the escalation of social conflicts, he would like to know what strategies were being considered to improve dialogue with indigenous peoples.

26. He appreciated the Government's commitment to protecting freedom of expression, but would invite it to carefully consider the Committee's general recommendation No. 35 on combating racist hate speech (CERD/C/GC/35), which shed light on how to address such issues. Programmes such as *La Paisana Jacinta* and the character of El Negro Mama demeaned indigenous peoples and Afro-Peruvians. He urged the State party to find a way of resolving the matter, which was of national concern.

27. **Ms. Shepherd** said that Peru had a number of laws that protected its citizens, and its Constitution — which stipulated that every person had the right to equality before the law and that no person should be discriminated against on any basis — appeared to be aligned with the Convention. Nevertheless, she remained concerned that Afro-Peruvians were not recognized as a distinct group and that they continued to face inequalities and gaps related to structural racism — a legacy of the slave trade. The specialized study on the Afro-Peruvian population had shown that only 3.8 per cent of Afro-Peruvian respondents earned more than 2,500 soles per month and that the majority considered that racial discrimination was a cause of poverty among Afro-Peruvians.

28. She was interested to know what proportion of the national budget was set aside for education and culture. She welcomed the creation of the Afro-Peruvian Working Group to examine and develop proposals regarding the educational situation of people of African descent and would be grateful if the State party would share the results of the baseline survey that had been conducted in relation to the plan for meeting the educational needs of Afro-Peruvian children and adolescents. She would like to hear the delegation's thoughts on how the low rate of tertiary education completion among Afro-Peruvians might be improved.

29. Improvements in the sphere of education should not be measured solely in terms of access to institutions, but should also take into account the content of education. She was curious to know how the State party taught students about the country's history of conquest, colonization, land appropriation and slavery. Were students taught about the contributions of Afro-Peruvians and indigenous peoples to the development of the country?

30. Despite the Government's efforts to combat illiteracy among indigenous peoples, the gains made remained below expectations. A study entitled "Peru: Inequality of Education for Indigenous Groups, the Neglected Class" had found that severe poverty hindered access to education, information and services and that a lack of transport forced rural teachers and children to walk long distances to school. She would like information on the measures adopted to address high dropout rates caused by poverty and lack of transport. She urged the State party to step up its efforts to protect indigenous peoples' right to education, and she wished it success in implementing the National Policy for Mainstreaming the Intercultural Approach. While it was not possible to alter history, she hoped that it would be possible to reverse its negative effects and foster a harmonious democratic society.

31. **Ms. McDougall** said that she would be grateful for clarification of the delegation's comment on persons of African descent being considered a tribal people. She was interested to know more about the ownership of the extractive industries operating in Peru, including foreign mining companies. Recalling that international guidelines on the use of private security contractors existed, she asked whether the State party's policies respected those guidelines and whether private security contractors were subject to the same restrictions on the use of force as the police and the military. She would also like to know what measures were in place to ensure the accountability of such contractors, whether those who transgressed were tried in Peru or in their country of origin and whether they might also incur civil liability. Finally, she would appreciate information on the percentage of productive land that was owned and managed by indigenous communities.

32. **Mr. Cali Tzay** said that he would like to know whether the purpose of recognizing the alphabets of 38 indigenous languages was to strengthen those languages or to Hispanicize them. While he had been interested to learn about the National Policy for Mainstreaming the Intercultural Approach, it had reminded him of the concept of "directed cultural change" advanced by the anthropologist Ulrich Köhler in 1975 to describe indigenous policies of that time; he was concerned that intercultural education might be another way of "civilizing" or homogenizing communities. He would like to hear the delegation's comments on reports that 50 per cent of the Nahua population — an indigenous people in a situation of initial contact — had been exposed to mercury poisoning resulting from informal mining activities financed by mining corporations.

33. **Mr. Marugán** said that he was pleased to learn of the State party's commitment to establish an independent mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders not under the supervision of the Ministry of Energy and Mines. He wondered when that mechanism would be operational. He was also interested to know whether civil society and human rights defenders had been consulted on the plan to establish the mechanism under the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. Was that institution deemed to be sufficiently independent, and had any other alternatives been proposed to ensure the independence and impartiality of the mechanism?

34. The Committee recognized that Peru had committed to guaranteeing migrants' rights to health and education. However, despite requests by the Intersectoral Round Table for Migration Management to relax access requirements and by the Ombudsman's Office for the Ministry of Health to consider asylum seekers a priority group, to date there had been no changes in the regulations. Had he understood correctly that migrants who did not have refugee status or alien identity cards, including asylum seekers, only had access to emergency services?

35. While the State party's development of consecutive national plans to combat forced labour was positive, he remained concerned about their implementation. He noted that the Government had still not collected statistics on forced labour and its impact on different ethnic groups, despite having set itself that goal in 2014. He wondered what difficulties were hindering the implementation of proposed measures.

36. **Mr. Avtonomov** said that he strongly supported the right to freedom of expression. However, it should not be exercised in an abusive manner that undermined other rights of individuals or peoples, such as the right to human dignity. Drawing attention to the Committee's general recommendation No. 34 on racial discrimination against people of African descent, he asked whether the State party was participating in the International Decade for People of African Descent. If so, what activities were under way? He was curious to know whether there were any Roma communities in Peru. Lastly, he wished to encourage the State party to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention.

37. **Ms. Mohamed** said she had the impression that women were to some extent marginalized in the State party. She would like information about women's representation in the executive and legislative branches and in municipal governments. She also wished to know whether they could exercise the right to freedom of association and whether they had full access to justice.

The meeting was suspended at 12.10 p.m. and resumed at 12.30 p.m.

38. **Mr. Briceño Salazar** (Peru) said that the Peruvian Government guaranteed access to health care for Peruvians and foreigners resident in the country without discrimination. Foreigners with refugee status and permanent resident permits had access to free care under the Comprehensive Health Insurance System, which catered for persons in situations of vulnerability and extreme poverty. Persons with temporary residence permits and employment contracts had access to health-care services through the social health insurance system (ESSALUD).

39. **Ms. Masana García** (Peru) said that gypsies (*gitanos*) had begun to arrive in Peru in the nineteenth century. The community was composed of three groups known as Calé, Rom and Ludar. The Calé group, which was the smallest of the three, had links with the Spanish flamenco tradition. The Rom group was of Eastern European and Turkish origin. The Ludar group was the largest of the three and many of its members worked in circuses. The gypsy communities were not viewed in a negative light by the rest of the Peruvian population.

40. **Mr. Arias Lazarte** (Peru) said that women were not marginalized in Peru. On the contrary, vigorous action had been taken to empower them. In the executive branch, 5 of the 18 ministers were women. In the legislative branch, 36 of the 130 members of Congress were women. In the judiciary, 4 of the 20 Supreme Court judges were women. Women enjoyed freedom of association and were free to establish both for-profit and non-profit organizations.

41. **Mr. De la Puente Ribeyro** (Peru) said that until very recently the country's Prime Minister had been a woman, and women had held the office of Speaker of Congress on more than one occasion. The first Minister of Culture, Susana Baca, had been an Afrodescendent woman and an internationally recognized artist. He rejected the allegation that the State was tacitly promoting the Hispanicization of indigenous peoples. The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Culture were doing their utmost to recognize and preserve indigenous languages and cultures. Indigenous alphabets were officially recognized and school textbooks were produced in indigenous languages. There was no reliable evidence that mercury contamination was related to illegal mining activities. The matter was currently being investigated. The largest mining companies operated in accordance with internationally recognized standards, and procedures had been established to address any concerns that arose regarding the impact of their activities on living conditions for the country's population.

42. **Mr. Soria Fuerte** (Peru) said that Afrodescendants in Peru enjoyed the right to prior consultation in accordance with article 1 of the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, which had been in force in Peru since 1994. Self-identification as an indigenous or tribal group was regarded, pursuant to the Convention, as a fundamental criterion for determining the groups to which its provisions, including the right to prior consultation, applied. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights had highlighted, in the case of the *Saramaka People v. Suriname*, certain characteristics that determined which communities met the criteria applicable to a tribal community. According to the Court, the Saramaka people had been forcibly taken to Suriname during the colonization period, where they had subsequently established autonomous communities. They shared social, cultural and economic traditions that were different from those of other groups within the national population. They also maintained a strong spiritual relationship with their ancestral territory. Their economy could be characterized as tribal, and they regulated themselves, at least partially, by their own norms, customs and traditions. Peru respected the binding provisions of international treaties that were applicable to Afrodescendent communities who met the relevant criteria. Two days earlier a bill had been submitted to Congress to amend the Constitution to recognize Afrodescendants and various indigenous peoples. The Afrodescendent population was the focus of a core component of the National Human Rights Plan.

43. With regard to the alleged lack of independence and impartiality of the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights in dealing with human rights defenders, he wished to point out that the principles of independence and impartiality applicable to the judiciary did not apply to institutions of the executive branch. Moreover,

such institutions were not directly responsible for protection of human rights defenders, which was a function of the national police force and the Public Prosecution Service.

44. The Government was endeavouring to discourage the public from watching programmes such as *La Paisana Jacinta* and *El Especial del Humor*, which featured the character "El Negro Mama". It was cognizant of the standards laid down in the Committee's general recommendation No. 35 on combating racist hate speech and was committed to applying them.

45. **Mr. Murillo Martínez** said that the legislative initiative aimed at recognizing Afro-Peruvians in the State party's Constitution was welcome. He also welcomed the State party's ratification of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and commended its intercultural education, health and justice policies. He encouraged the State party to strengthen the Racism Alert Platform, to ensure that the ethics guidelines for the media were effectively implemented, to promote the involvement of indigenous peoples in deliberations on climate change, and to ensure that the National Human Rights Plan was effectively implemented, particularly with regard to ensuring the full protection of human rights defenders. He would also encourage the State party to update its common core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.42).

46. **Mr. Soria Fuerte** (Peru) said that the Peruvian Government would do its utmost to implement the Committee's recommendations. The existing plans, laws and regulations contained important norms aimed at guaranteeing respect for the human rights of all persons subject to the State's jurisdiction, particularly vulnerable groups. He wished to note that the delegation was composed of people of various origins. He himself came from one of the poorest parts of the country and had also lived for many years in a relatively poor district of Lima. His appointment to the office of Deputy Minister for Human Rights and Access to Justice had therefore meant a great deal to his community. He hoped that future delegations would be even more diverse in ethnic and socioeconomic terms.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.